

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 223954  
ORIGIN SS-15

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 223954

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM LUSAKA DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 1977  
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO DAR ES SALAAM, LONDON, PRETORIA  
IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2813

EXDIS

FOR AF MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK  
SUBJ: RHODESIAN QUESTIONS ON THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL

1. I ASSUME THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM THE  
BRITISH THE LENGTHY PAPER CONTAINING SPECIFIC RHODESIAN  
QUESTIONS ON THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL. THE PAPER FOLLOWED  
FROM GRAHAM'S AND MY AFTERNOON SESSION WITH GAYLARD  
SEPTEMBER 1. IT WAS GIVEN BY GAYLARD TO VARCOE (UK REP  
IN SALISBURY) ON SEPTEMBER 7.

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2. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THE PAPER IS A HODGEPODGE.  
IT CONTAINS A NUMBER OF THROW-AWAY QUESTIONS WHICH THE  
RHODESIANS ARE RAISING SIMPLY FOR THE RECORD, THE ANSWERS  
TO WHICH THEY VERY WELL KNOW (I.E., BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE,  
DUAL CITIZENSHIP, ONE-THIRD WHITE MEMBERSHIP ELECTED BY  
WHITES, CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT, ETC.). IT ALSO CONTAIN  
SOME LEGITIMATE QUESTIONS WHICH NEED CLARIFICATION (HOW

DO YOU ELECT A PRESIDENT IF NO PARTY HAS A MAJORITY) AND IT POINTS OUT A NUMBER OF AREAS WHERE FURTHER DEFINITION OF THE PRINCIPLES IS NECESSARY.

3. WHAT OF COURSE IT BASICALLY DEMONSTRATES IS THAT THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF FURTHER NEGOTIATION NECESSARY OUTSIDE OF THE MILITARY AREA. THE RHODESIANS ARE RIGHT IN SAYING THAT WE HAD PREVIOUSLY LED THEM TO BELIEVE THAT MUCH OF THIS WOULD BE SETTLED AT A CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD BE CONVENED BEFORE SMITH LEFT OFFICE AT THE TIME OF FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE WHOLE PROPOSAL BY ALL PARTIES. NOW IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE TAKE PLACE UNDER THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD. THEY ARE ALSO RIGHT IN POINTING OUT THAT SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS RELATE TO ADMINISTRATION OF THE INTERIM PERIOD AND CAN'T WAIT FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, THEIR COMPLAINT THAT THEY WOULD HAVE GIVEN UP POWER BEFORE THE RULES OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED CAN BE ANSWERED IN A NUMBER OF WAYS. IN THE FIRST PLACE THEIR POSITION AFTER HAVING ABANDONED POWER WOULD BE THE SAME AS THAT OF OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES-- THE NATIONALISTS--NOT LESS. THE OBLIGATION OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER TO CONSULT WITH THEM WOULD REMAIN AND THEY WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN THE SAME WAY. MORE IMPORTANT, MANY OF THE PROBLEMS THEY RAISE COULD BE WORKED OUT AND AGREED BEFORE THEY ACCEPTED THE PROPOSALS.

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4. THE DEPARTMENT MAY ALREADY HAVE ADDRESSED THIS PROBLEM WITH THE BRITISH. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT IT SEEMS THAT WE SHOULD BE CONSIDERING A PARALLEL SET OF NEGOTIATIONS ON NON-MILITARY MATTERS AT THE SAME TIME AS THE 11 C TALKS ARE GOING ON. THEY SHOULD EITHER BE HANDLED BY TRYING TO GET EVERYBODY TOGETHER AT THE SAME PLACE AS UNDER 11 C, OR A SERIES OF INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS. IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THE PARTIES, INCLUDING MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE, COULD BE GATHERED TOGETHER. HOWEVER, CONSULTATIONS TO RESOLVE REMAINING CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS AT AN APPROPRIATE HIGH LEVEL COULD HELP ASSUAGE MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE'S UNHAPPINESS AT NOT BEING INVOLVED IN THE 11 C MILITARY LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS.

5. MANY OF THE QUESTIONS ARE OF A TECHNICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL NATURE IN WHICH THE U.S. REALLY DOES NOT NEED TO BE INVOLVED. OTHERS, LIKE THE POINT RAISED ON THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND AND THE QUESTION OF LAW AND ORDER, DEFINITELY ARE OF INTEREST TO US. THEY COULD BE HANDLED IN LONDON AND WASHINGTON. U.S. INVOLVEMENT THEREFORE COULD BE HANDLED EITHER WAY, DEPENDING ON THE IMAGE WE WANT TO PRESENT. LOW UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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